#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

#### HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: <u>69-27</u>	Building Date: <u>c.1944</u>
Building Name: <u>Bill Green's Motors,</u>	Inc.
Location: <u>5406 Annapolis Road, Blade</u>	ensburg, Maryland
Private/Gas Station/G	Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

# Description Summary

Bill Green's Motors, Inc., at 5406 Annapolis Road (Lots 37,38,39, Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights) is a small, one-story, stucco-covered building with a rectangular plan and a shallow, shed roof concealed on three sides by a simple horizontal parapet. The building is devoid of applied decoration and relies on its simple, volumetric massing for architectural effect. The building, which is oriented to the south, is located on the north side of Annapolis Road, west of its intersection with Landover Road. Originally constructed as an auto service station, the building has two service bays to the west, and an office to the east. The service bays are accessed by wood and glass overhead garage doors, and the office by a small wood-and-glass entry door. The office is lighted by a large curved window made up of vertical panes of plate glass. The curve of the office window is also expressed in the rounded corner of the building. At the rounded corner, the building's simple horizontal parapet rises above the rest of the building. The narrow east elevation of the building contains only a small single-door entry at its northern end.

## Significance Summary

Bill Green's Motors, Inc., is significant as a representative example of early twentieth century roadside architecture in Prince George's County. The building, originally built as an auto service station, has been a familiar landmark near the intersection of Annapolis and Landover roads since its construction in the mid 1940s. The building was constructed c. 1944, by the Mobil Oil Company for use as a service station. The land on which the station was located, Lots 37, 38, 39, Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights, was leased by Mobil from Wade H. Sheriff for at least five years after the construction of the building. Sheriff had acquired the lots and several others adjacent to this site through a tax sale in October 1943. For many years after its use by the Mobil Oil Company, the building was the site of a used car sales operated by Bill Green. Although Mr. Green died in the early 1980s, used car sales ventures at the site have continued to operate under his name.

Acreage: 5,206 sq. ft.

#### PG # 69-27

#### Bill Green's Motors, Inc. 5406 Annapolis Road

# Bladensburg, Maryland

### **HISTORIC CONTEXT:**

# MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods:

Modern Period - AD 1930- Present

Historic Period Themes:

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Functions and Uses: Gas Station

Design Source: Mobil Oil Company/unknown

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE \_\_yes \_\_no

state Maryland county Prince George's  3. Classification  Category Ownership district	1. Nam	(indicate pre	ferred name)		
2. Location  street & number 5406 Annapolis Road (Maryland Route 450)	historic				
city, town Bladensburg	and/or common	Bill Green's Motor's	s Inc.		
state Maryland county Prince George's  3. Classification  Category Ownership district A county Present Use district A county Private agriculture public A cocupied A commercial park work in progress educational private resider and applicable not applicable no military other:  4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)  5. Location of Legal Description  Courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber S409  5. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  date	2. Loca	ation			
state Maryland county Prince George's  3. Classification  Category Ownership Status Present Use Agriculture Museum X county Prince George's  Status Vaccupied Vaccunity Ownership Vaccupied Vaccupied Vaccumental Dark Commercial Dark Commerc	street & number	5406 Annapolis Road	d (Maryland Route 4	:50) _	not for publication
3. Classification  Category Ownership Status Accoupled Agriculture Auditiriet X building(s) Structure Both Work in progress Site Public Acquisition — object	city, town Blad	ensburg	vicinity of	congressional district	4th
3. Classification  Category Ownership Status Accoupled Agriculture Auditiriet X building(s) Structure Both Work in progress Site Public Acquisition — object	state Marylan	d	county	Prince George's	
district				·	
name Wade H. Sheriff, Jr.  street & number 1207 Hornell Drive telephone no.:  city, town Silver Spring state and zip code Maryland 20904  5. Location of Legal Description  courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5409  street & number 14735 Main Street folio 532  city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  tittle N/A  datefederalstatecounty  _pository for survey records	district _X building(s) structure site	public private both Public Acquisition in process being considered	occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible yes: restricted yes: unrestricted	agriculture X commercial educational entertainment government industrial	park private residence religious scientific transportation
street & number 1207 Hornell Drive telephone no.:  city, town Silver Spring state and zip code Maryland 20904  5. Location of Legal Description  courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5409  street & number 14735 Main Street folio 532  city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  datefederalstatecounty	4. Own	er of Proper	'ty (give names a	nd mailing addresse	es of <u>all</u> owners)
state and zip code Maryland 20904  5. Location of Legal Description  courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse  street & number 14735 Main Street  city, town Upper Marlboro  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  datefederal state county  _pository for survey records	name Wade	H. Sheriff, Jr.			
5. Location of Legal Description  courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse  1iber 5409  street & number 14735 Main Street folio 532  city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  date	street & number	1207 Hornell Drive		telephone r	10.:
courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse  street & number 14735 Main Street  folio 532  city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  tittle N/A  date	city, town Silv	er Spring	state	and zip code Maryl	and 20904
street & number 14735 Main Street  city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  date	5. Loca	ation of Lega	al Description	on	
city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland  6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  datefederal state county  _pository for survey records	courthouse, regi	stry of deeds, etc. Prince	George's County Co	ourthouse	liber <sup>5409</sup>
6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys  title N/A  datefederal state county  _pository for survey records	street & number	14735 Main Street			folio 532
title N/A  date federal state county  _pository for survey records	city, town	Upper Marlboro		state	Maryland
federal state countypository for survey records	6. Rep	resentation	in Existing	Historical Surv	veys
pository for survey records	title N/A				
	date			federal sta	ite county loca
city, town state	pository for su	urvey records			
	city, town			state	

7. Desc	cription		Survey No.pG#69-27
Condition  x excellent y good fair	deteriorated ruins unexposed	Check one unaltered altered	Check one  X original site moved date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

7. Description

Bill Green's Motors, Inc., at 5406 Annapolis Road (Lots 37,38,39, Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights) is a small, one-story, stucco-covered building with a rectangular plan and a shallow, shed roof concealed on three sides by a simple horizontal parapet. The building is devoid of applied decoration and relies on its simple, volumetric massing for architectural effect. The building, which is oriented to the south, is located on the north side of Annapolis Road, west of its intersection with Landover Road.

Originally constructed as an auto service station, the building has two service bays to the west, and an office to the east. The service bays are accessed by wood and glass overhead garage doors, and the office by a small wood-and-glass entry door. The office is lighted by a large curved window made up of vertical panes of plate glass. The curve of the office window is also expressed in the rounded corner of the building. At the rounded corner, the building's simple horizontal parapet rises above the rest of the building. The narrow east elevation of the building contains only a small single-door entry at its northern end.

Period prehisto 1400-14 1500-15 1600-16 1700-17 1800-18 1900-	99 archeology-historic 99 agriculture 99 architecture	• •	landscape architecture law literature military music philosophy politics/government	e religion science sculpture social/ humanitarian theater transportation other (specify)
Specific da	tes c.1944	Builder/Architect		
_	oplicable Criteria:A and/or pplicable Exception:A		EFG	
Le	evel of Significance:	_nationalstate	local	

Survey No. PG#69-27

8. Significance

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Bill Green's Motors, Inc., is significant as a representative example of early twentieth century roadside architecture in Prince George's County. The building, originally built as an auto service station, has been a familiar landmark near the intersection of Annapolis and Landover roads since its construction in the mid 1940s.

The building was constructed c. 1944, by the Mobil Oil Company for use as a service station. The land on which the station was located, Lots 37, 38, 39, Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights, was leased by Mobil from Wade H. Sheriff for at least five years after the construction of the building. Sheriff had acquired the lots and several others adjacent to this site through a tax sale in October 1943.

For many years after its use by the Mobil Oil Company, the building was the site of a used car sales operated by Bill Green. Although Mr. Green died in the early 1980s, used sales ventures at that location have continued to operate under his name.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Portions of what today is known as Decatur Heights were originally subdivided in 1914; Block 25, Addition A, was recorded as part of a replatting in 1947, see Plat 2:36. See also Prince George's County Land Records, 722:82.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Oral interview, Wade H. Sheriff, Jr., Ashton, Maryland, June 8, 1993.

# **Major Bibliographical References**

Survey No.PG#69-27

See Notes, Section #8.

10. Geograp	hical Data		
Acreage of nominated proper Quadrangle name Washingt UTM References do NOT of			Quadrangle scale 1:24000
Zone Easting	Northing	B Zone	Easting Northing
C		D	
Verbal boundary description Lots, 37,38,39, B1	-	A. Decatur Heigh	nts
List all states and countie		apping state or cou	ınty boundaries
List all states and countie	es for properties overl	county	code
state	code	county	code
state state 11. Form Pre name/title Howard S. Ber	code code pared By eger, Architectura	county	code
state  state  11. Form Pre  name/title Howard S. Ber  Prince Geor	code code epared By	county county  Historian	code
state  state  11. Form Pre  name/title Howard S. Ber  Prince Geor	code code pared By eger, Architectura ege's County ereservation Commi	county county  Historian ssion date	code

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House 21 State Circle

(301) 269-2438

UHCP/DHCD 100 COMMUNITY PLACE Annapolis, Maryland 21401 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023 514-7600

#### CHAIN OF TITLE

PG # 69-27

Bill Green's Motors, Inc. 5406 Annapolis Road Bladensburg, Maryland

5409:532 26 May 1981 Deed

722:82 26 October 1943 Deed

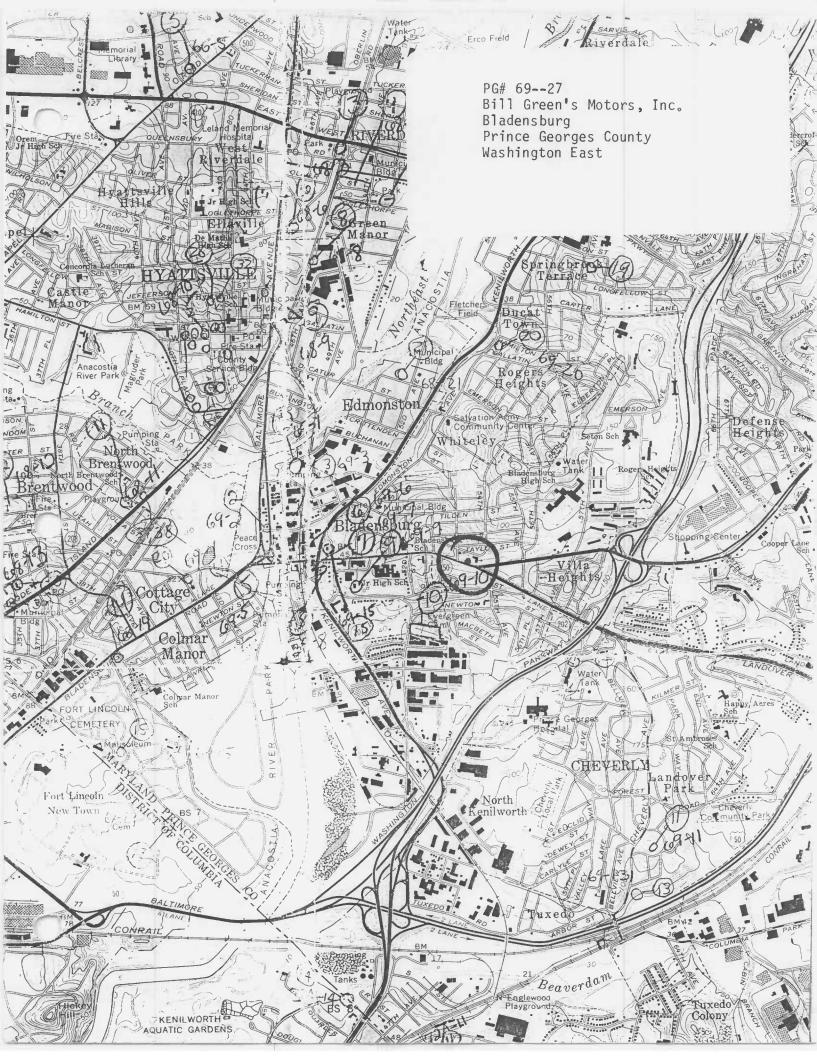
332:123 24 September 1928 Deed

232:261 9 April 1925 Deed Wade H. Sheriff, Jr. (personal representative of Alice B. Sheriff, deceased, surviving tenant Wade H. Sheriff) to Wade H. Sheriff, Jr. Grantors conveys Lots 37, 38 and 39 (and others) in Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights. Plat recorded 2:36. Same obtained from County Commissioners and Constance Zuras, 26 October 1943, 722:82.

County Commissioners of Prince George's County for Constance Zuras to Wade H. and Alice B. Sheriff. Grantors convey Lots 37, 38 and 39 (and others) in Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights. Same obtained from Nicholas Zuras, 24 September 1928, 332:123.

Nicholas Zuras to Constance Zuras. Grantor conveys Lots 37, 38 and 39 in Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights. Same obtained from Washington Potomac Industrial Corporation, 9 April 1925, 232:261.

Washington Potomac Industrial Corporation to Nicholas Zuras. Grantors convey Lots 37, 38 and 39, Block 25, Addition A, Decatur Heights. To clear title, this deed is made.





P6# 69-27 Bill Green's Motors Inc., Bladenstry Prince Georg's County, Maryland Howard S. Berger February 1993 FROM 5 (detail) MPSHOO DOF J



P6#69-27 Bill Geen's Motors, Inc., Bladenstong Homes S. Berger , Maryland February 1993 FROM S MOSTRO 10F2